

Hawaiian Gazette

TEN - PAGE EDITION.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1889.

A READER, referring to the letter of a correspondent in last week's GAZETTE, criticising Mr. Manley Hopkins' communication to the London Times, says "Manley Hopkins seems to have meant by 'American Christian' an 'American religious' newspaper—a very harmless and not uncalled for attempt to designate with precision the character of the Christian Union."

A NEW plan for insuring passengers by boat or rail has lately been introduced in London, which is said to have been received with favor. A policy of insurance is issued with each ticket, without cost to the purchaser or to the railroad company. This policy is upon a large sheet, the greater portion of which is taken up with advertisements and a description of the route to be traversed. The revenue derived from the advertising is sufficient to defray the cost of insurance.

It is said that the Paris exposition is still attracting as large crowds as at any previous date, as is indicated by the visitors. For the first fortnight of September the number of visitors was 2,610,211, while for the same period in 1878 the number was 1,162,112. The admissions for May, June, July, August and half of September aggregate 17,086,952, as against 8,287,999 in 1878. The present Fair pay, therefore, be justly claimed to be twice as successful as the former one. The exposition was to have closed, Oct. 31, but owing to the large crowds still flocking to it the directors may decide to keep it open a month longer.

Few people realize how moderate are the charges here for the telephone, compared with those of other countries. In France the telephone system is under the control of the post-office officials and the service is thus maintained at an expense to patrons which is claimed to barely cover the cost. The Postmaster-General has recently issued a new tariff sheet, by which the service in Paris is reduced from an annual charge of \$120 to \$80. The reduction is received with much favor, and already a marked increase in the number of telephones and the amount of business done has been noted.

The African slave trade, which has never been suppressed, is now engaging great attention in Europe and America. C. P. Huntington, the railroad magnate, has issued a paper calling on the government and people of the United States to take some immediate measures to break it up. In Europe, a congress of the leading nations is soon to be convened at Brussels, under the auspices of King Leopold, to advise measures to suppress this slave trade. The special object of the conference at Brussels is to supply a plan by which civilized nations will co-operate with each other in putting an end to this brutal trade, not only by moral means, but also by forcible measures.

A NEW article of commerce has lately come into competition with sugar, the production of which is said to be increasing in Europe. It is called saccharine. As a competitor of beet sugar, it is beginning to be feared. In Germany alone so much saccharine has been made as to render 5000 tons of beet sugar superfluous. It is principally employed in the canning of fruits, and the production of sweet liquors. It is not a food stuff. Indeed, it has been condemned by eminent medical authorities as directly prejudicial to health. The sugar manufacturers are of the opinion that saccharine should only be sold by chemists. France, Italy, Portugal are already contemplating imposing a tax upon it.

The eclipse of the sun which occurs in December is attracting considerable attention, and several astronomical expeditions are being sent out to South America and Africa to observe it. The Lick University of California sends one to British Guiana, South America, the whole expense of which will be paid by Col. Charles Crocker. Another will be sent from the Naval Observatory at Washington. The superintendent of that institution states that the preparations for the expedition to Africa to observe the total eclipse of

the sun, which occurs in December next, are being actively pushed forward. The smallness of the appropriation by Congress for this work, \$5,000, necessitates careful expenditures, and it will be impossible to send the expedition to St. Paul de Loando, where the observations will take place in Africa, except on a Government vessel.

In one respect Hawaii is ahead of England—in having established free education for her population. This subject is now beginning to be agitated by the politicians of that country, and is attracting considerable attention. The friends of free education are providing for a full public discussion of it, confident that it will become popular with the masses there. A fund has been contributed to defray the expenses of speakers and the circulation of pamphlets in support of the movement. Many Radical members of Parliament have already announced themselves in favor of the movement, and it is more than likely that a resolution backed by the entire opposition will be offered at the coming session in favor of free education. The Conservatives are already conceding the stand to be taken by them in that event.

A NEW invention has lately been announced, which, if it prove practical, will give an impetus to cotton manufactures. The inventor claims that by its use cotton can be spun directly from the seed, without having to be passed through a gin. Any one who is familiar with the working of the Sea Island roller cotton gin must have noticed how readily the rollers take hold of the fibers of the cotton and pull them from the seeds without breaking them. The operation of these gins probably gave the idea to the inventor referred to above, and he may have utilized it in applying it to short-stapled cotton. Being familiar with Sea Island ginning, we can see no reason why the invention may not prove successful with both varieties of cotton. If it does, it will not only be an important and valuable one in reducing the expenses of manufacturing cotton, but it will hasten the transfer of cotton mills to the cotton-producing region.

The statistics prepared by His Excellency the Minister of Finance, to show the nationality of employees of the Government, is a valuable one, and its publication is timely. The statement has been industriously circulated among the natives, that the public offices are filled mostly by foreigners, and being credited by many of them, has had a tendency to stir up jealousy and ill feeling toward foreigners.

The summary at the end of the statistics shows that the public offices are filled by 1,796 persons, whose nativity is as follows:

Hawaiian born.....1184

Foreign born.....612

Yet all those classed as foreign born have become Hawaiian citizens by naturalization or denizenship, and are entitled to all the privileges of Hawaiian born. In any other country there would be no distinction made between native and foreign born in any government statistics of employees. Nor should there be any here. The native politicians, however, harp on this distinction, and maintain that foreigners fill most of the public offices. We trust that the native newspapers will publish the facts as given in the Minister's exhibit, showing that nearly two-thirds of the Government employees are natives. Facts such as these will do more than columns of argument to quiet the agitation which demagogues among them are seeking to stir up.

The native voters claim that they ought to have one pure Hawaiian in the Cabinet. But this is unreasonable, for there are very few fully qualified by business experience and education, to fill the duties of a crown minister. Even if this number be increased to include the half whites, there are very few, perhaps not a half dozen qualified for the position. Still if there be only one such, will it not be wise policy to make him a cabinet minister, if, by so doing, harmony and the public interest can be conserved?

We do not say that such a concession should be made; but such is unquestionably the wish of the leading natives not only in this city but throughout the group. And they assert that such a government will receive their united support. The suggestion is certainly one well worthy of consideration on the eve of an election which must have an important influence on the future of Hawaii nei.

A DIFFERENT VIEW.

While we cannot agree in all respects with our correspondent "Honolulu Elector," whose letter is published in another column, abundant food for reflection is furnished. The strictures upon the planters are not warranted by any record they have made. It is true that correspondents in the Bulletin and occasionally in this paper have denounced the whole class as greedy, selfish and unprincipled, and these denunciations have not been denied; but this gives no right to any one to assume that such letters are true. It is simply the old story; the capitalist is assailed with fury and denounced till the poor man himself becomes rich whereby the positions are reversed and the traducer himself becomes traduced.

To assert that the proposed constitutional amendment of 1888 was defeated by the planters, is not true. The assembly was composed of the whole of cautious and conservative men, and the amendment was defeated because that the majority could not be convinced that such a change as proposed in the fundamental law of the land was just the manner to deal with the question. There is no doubt that the continuous agitation of the Chinese question has set men thinking, and many who had no opinion then have a decided one now. The resolutions adopted by the Planters' Labor and Supply Company express the view of that body as honestly reached and will be supported by them. It comes with very bad grace to insinuate that they are guilty of hypocrisy.

The question presented before the electors to be decided next February, of the supreme importance is not local in any respect. It is that of the preservation of a liberal constitutional government in this country. Any division in the ranks of liberty-loving men at that time will be attended with the greatest peril. All other issues aside we should unite to elect a Legislature who will preserve our Constitution, whereby the equal rights of the Hawaiian as well as the foreigner are protected.

THE COLONIAL MAIL SERVICE.

The continuance of the Oceanic steamship service between San Francisco and the Colonies for another year is assured without a doubt, by the resolution of the New Zealand government to join with New South Wales, in maintaining it for at least one year longer. Both colonies believe that before that term expires the United States will be prepared to join with them in maintaining the service, as it most certainly will. Both President Harrison and Secretary Blaine have given opinions strongly in favor of granting subsidies to American steamship lines, and this will probably be among the first to receive the sanction of Congress.

Statistics which will be presented to Congress will show that the trade between the United States and the Australian colonies is steadily on the increase, and needs only larger ships and more frequent trips to give it a large impetus. The last few trips of the Oceanic steamers have been with full cargoes of American goods for the colonies. So great has been the increase that on several occasions, freight for this port has been refused on the through boats. Instead of decreasing, this demand for more freight room and larger vessels will steadily increase. The two colonial governments which we have named see these wants and are loth to drop the service until the American government has had an opportunity to assist by providing a generous subsidy for the service. Already the latter derives an income from postage on the colonial service exceeding \$50,000 a year, which is increasing at the rate of \$10,000 per annum. Consequently whatever subsidy it may vote will by no means be a loss to it.

And right here the language of Mr. Thurber of New York, which we quoted in our issue of the 11th, applies with great emphasis:

Trade follows the flag. Steamship lines build up their respective countries just as railroad lines build up their respective territories. As trade develops, the amount of postage collected will increase, until all subsidies or extra mail pay by our government can be withdrawn; but until the time arrives, we can never have successful American steamship lines, unless our government puts them on an equal basis with their competitors.

It is the expression of such sound common sense logic as this that helps to convince political skeptics that liberality towards the foreign mail service is the surest way to augment the prosperity of the nation.

THE AMERICAN WORLD'S FAIR.

Among the features of the American World's Fair in 1892, says the S. F. Chronicle, there will probably be a very tall tower, it having been planned to build one twice the height of the Eiffel tower, which would make it nearly 2,000 feet high. The subject has already attracted considerable attention, and Eiffel himself has expressed the opinion that there could be no serious engineering difficulty in the way, all that would be needed being to widen the base and make the ironwork proportionately stronger.

The idea of a tall tower is well enough, but it should not stop there. There should be something distinctive, something original, something American about it. Were it possible to reproduce in iron and steel one of the big trees of our California groves, then the structure would have an intrinsic value outside of its mere height; or could it be so built as to illustrate some phase of American national life or habits of industry, it would fulfill a purpose; but to simply erect a tower twice as high as the Paris tower would be absolutely childish.

There are ways by which a tall tower might be incorporated with the exposition buildings and be devoted, in part at least, to exhibition purposes, and in that case the tower would justify its construction, even though it were deficient in novelty of design. If it were divided, up to a certain height, into stories, and each was the home of some particular exhibit of American products or industries, then the tower would serve some definite purpose; but to rear a monument 2,000 feet high simply because France has one 1,000 feet high is ridiculous and absurd.

It is evident already that one of the most urgent demands of the exposition of 1892 will be brains. Money is, of course, indispensable, but money without brains and intelligence to direct its expenditure will be only thrown away, and the World's Fair will be a failure. Ideas are in demand, so that the American exposition shall have at least a flavor of originality, and shall not be a mere copy of previous exhibitions. It may be assumed that foreign nations will respond to the invitation and send exhibits of interest and value; and the question is, what shall the United States do to make the exposition genuinely and distinctively American, so far as her part of it is concerned?

Advertisements.

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(Signed) JOSEPH H. KAWELO, LILY KAWELO, Mortgagors, Koolau, Kauai, Nov. 2, 1889. 107-11 1290-21

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